Environmental Restoration (ER) Project Cerro Grande Fire Accelerated Actions Information Sheet

Potential Release Site (PRS) 41-003 Sump

Technical Area (TA)-41 is located in Los Alamos Canyon, upstream of TA-2. The primary activities that occur at TA-41 involve engineering, design, and development of nuclear components, including fabrication and evaluation of test materials for weapons.

PRS History: PRS 41-003 is an inactive sump pit (TA-41-10). The sump serviced TA-41-1 and handled storm water and the water used to hose out the storage tunnel at TA-41. The tunnel that was built in 1948 and occupied by 1949 has been used to store transuranic (TRU) wastes and tritium. The sump discharges to Los Alamos Canyon.

In the fall of 1988, the sump (and associated pipes) were excavated, removed, and re-buried at a location approximately 20 feet south of its original location to make room for upgrades to the ventilation system at Building 41-1. Ten feet of soil from each side and from below the sump were excavated. No contamination was found in the structures or surrounding soil. Radiation survey documentation to support this finding has not been located. The drain line at the sump and floor and sink drains in Building 41-1 were capped at this time. Potential contaminants of concern include constituents associated with operations within the storage tunnel at Building 41-1, such as gross alpha/beta, tritium, uranium, isotopic plutonium, beryllium, lead, and mercury.



PRS 41-003 is listed on the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments module of the Laboratory's Hazardous Waste Facility permit. The ER Project has not proposed the site for no further action.

Issues of Concern: The area upstream of PRS 41-003 was burned during the Cerro Grande fire (a fire intensity rating of low to moderate). There is little potential for erosion or scouring at the site. The site does not contain debris that could enter the flood watercourse or structures that could interfere with or be impacted by flood mitigation measures.

Accelerated Action Status: As part of the Cerro Grande Fire recovery activities, accelerated actions have been implemented for the PRSs located at TA-41. A surface radiation survey was completed in October 2000 for TA-41 including PRS-41-003. No elevated radioactivity was detected.

Related Documents:

"Solid Waste Management Units Report," Vol. III of IV (TA-26 through TA-50) LANL Report LA-UR-90-3400, revised November 1990.

"RFI Work Plan for Operable Unit 1098, LANL Report LA-UR-92-3825, June 1993